



Installation of Boilers and Generators Minor Source Permits

Are you considering installing a boiler or furnace to heat your building or make process steam?

Do you have plans to update your existing boiler or furnace? If so, you may be required to file an application for a Minor Source permit with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM).

Who needs to obtain a Minor Source Permit?

Minor Source Permits applies to industrial or commercial size *combustion sources* used to generate heat or electricity. Some examples of combustion sources include boilers, furnaces and emergency or back-up generators.

The following is a list of equipment for which a Minor Source Permit is required:

Any fuel burning device designed to burn:

- Residual oil or solid fossil fuels having a heat input capacity of one million Btu or more per hour;
- All other liquid fuels having a heat capacity of five million Btu or more per hour;
- Gaseous fuel having a heat capacity of ten million Btu or more;
- Alternative fuels, including but not limited to wood chips, hazardous wastes, or waste oil having a heat input capacity of one million Btu or more per hour.

(for additional information refer to the Air Pollution Control Regulation Number 9)

Who's responsible?

The owners of the facility in which the combustion source will be installed are ultimately responsible for obtaining the appropriate permits.

Once I apply, how long will it take to obtain a permit?

The process may take about six months; therefore, plan to submit your application well before the proposed installation and start-up date of the combustion source. Also keep in mind that a separate application is required for *each* combustion source.

How much does a Minor Source Permit cost?

A Minor Source Permit costs \$1271. The application fee will be returned if DEM determines that the project does not need a "permit to install" the combustion source. If a permit is required, you must wait until DEM issues a permit to begin installation.

Why should DEM be concerned about combustion sources?

Combustion sources can emit pollutants such as particular matter (PM), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur oxides (SO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Depending on the type of fuel burned, other hazardous air pollutants may also be emitted.

What about record keeping?

The owner or operator of any facility that emits air contaminants shall, at the request of the Department, provide data on the general profile of boilers and fuel burning equipment, as well as fuel usage, for each combustion source. These records must be maintained and be made readily available for inspection by environmental regulators for at least 5 years.

How do I apply for a Minor Source Permit?

Contact RI DEM, Office of Air Resources, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI or call 401-222-2808. For additional information, visit our web site at www.state.ri.us/dem.